

April 28, 2003

Chief

Re:

Processed Products Branch Fruit and Vegetable Programs Agricultural Marketing Service U.S. Department of Agriculture 1400 Independence Ave., SW Stop 0247 Washington, DC 20250-0247

NATIONAL

Food

**PROCESSORS** 

PROCESSORS

Request to develop a U.S. grade standard for Canned Refried Beans

ASSOCIATION

Dear Mr. Bane:

The National Food Processors Association (NFPA), on behalf of its member companies, hereby petitions the U.S. Department of Agriculture to develop U.S. grade standards for canned refried beans. A draft of the proposed standard is attached to this letter.

The National Food Processors Association is the voice of the \$500 billion food processing industry on scientific and public policy issues involving food safety, food security, nutrition, technical and regulatory matters and consumer affairs. NFPA's three scientific centers, its scientists and professional staff represent food industry interests on government and regulatory affairs and provide research, technical services, education, communications and crisis management support for the association's U.S. and international members. NFPA members produce processed and packaged fruit, vegetable, and grain products, meat, poultry, and seafood products, snacks, drinks and juices, or provide supplies and services to food manufacturers.

6363 Clark Avenue Dublin, CA 94568 925-828-2070

Sincerely,

Michael Jantschke NFPA Secretary

USDA Grade Standards Review Subcommittee

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